IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI WESTERN DIVISION

SANDRA E. WILLIAMS

Plaintiff,

Case No.: 12-1273

٧.

NCO FINANCIAL SYSTEMS, INC.,

Defendant.

COMPLAINT AND JURY DEMAND

JURISDICTION

- 1. Jurisdiction of this Court arises under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d).
- This action arises out of the Defendant's violations of the Fair Debt Collection
 Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq. ("FDCPA").

VENUE

- 3. Venue is proper in this District.
- 4. The acts and transactions alleged herein occurred in this Judicial District.
- 5. The Plaintiff resides within the Judicial District.
- 6. Defendant transacts business within this Judicial District.
- 7. The Defendant regularly collects debts by telephone and the mails within this Judicial District.

PARTIES

- 8. Plaintiff Sandra E. Williams is a natural person.
- 9. Plaintiff resides in the City of Kansas City, County of Jackson, State of Missouri.
- 10. The Plaintiff is a "consumer" as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3).
- 11. The Plaintiff is an "any person" as that term is used within 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq.
- Defendant, NCO Financial Systems, Inc., is a foreign corporation with a Missouri registered agent of The Corporation Company, 120 South Central Avenue, Clayton, Missouri 63105.
- 13. The Defendant is a "debt collector" as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).
- 14. The principal business of the Defendant is the collection of debts using the mails and telephone.
- 15. The Defendant regularly attempts to collect, directly or indirectly, debts owed or due or asserted to be owed or due another that arose out of transactions in which the money, property or services which are the subject of the transactions are primarily for personal, family or household purposes.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS AND CAUSES OF ACTION

- 16. Sometime prior to the filing of the instant action, a person named Sandra V.

 Williams of some other unknown person allegedly incurred a financial obligation that was primarily for personal, family or household purposes, (hereinafter the "Account"). The Account is a "debt" as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5).
- 17. The Account went into default with the original creditor.

- 18. After the Account went into default the Account was placed or otherwise transferred to the Defendant for collection.
- 19. The Plaintiff disputes the Account.
- 20. The Plaintiff requests that the Defendant cease all further communication on the Account.
- 21. The Plaintiff requests that the Defendant validate the debt pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692g.
- 22. The Plaintiff is represented by the undersigned attorney regarding the subject debt.
- 23. In the year prior to the filing of the instant action, including but not limited to calls during August and September of 2012, the Defendant, acting through its representatives, employees and/or agents, participated in telephone calls with Plaintiff.
- 24. Upon information and belief, Defendant possesses recordings of the content of telephone calls between Plaintiff and Defendant's representatives.
- 25. Upon information and belief, Defendant kept and possesses written documentation and/or computer records of telephone calls between Plaintiff and Defendant's representatives.
- 26. The purpose of these telephone calls was to attempt to collect the Account.
- 27. The telephone calls conveyed information regarding the Account directly or indirectly to the Plaintiff.

- 28. The telephone calls each individually constituted a "communication" as defined by FDCPA § 1692a(2).
- 29. The only reason that the Defendant and/or representatives, employees and/or agents of the Defendant made telephone calls to the Plaintiff was to attempt to collect the Account.
- 30. During communications in September of 2012, Defendant's agents continued to call Plaintiff after she advised them she was not the person they were seeking in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692d preface.
- 31. Including but not limited to within August and September 2012, employees and/or agents of the Defendant, after advised Plaintiff was not the person they were seeking, repeatedly caused Plaintiff's telephone continuously to ring, with the intent to annoy, abuse and harass Plaintiff in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692d preface and d(5). The collector's intent is inferable from the obvious consequences of the conduct. *Meadows v. Franklin Collection Serv., Inc.,* 2011 WL 479997 (11th Cir. Feb. 11, 2011). The collector's intent may be inferred from the obvious consequences of the collector's numerous calls. *Brandt v. I.C. Sys., Inc.,* 2010 WL 582051 (M.D. Fla. Feb. 19, 2010).
- 32. Including but not limited to within August and September 2012, employees and/or agents of the Defendant, after advised Plaintiff was not the person they were seeking, repeatedly engaged Plaintiff in conversation, with the intent to annoy, abuse and harass Plaintiff in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692d preface and d(5). The collector's intent is inferable from the obvious consequences of the conduct.

- Meadows v. Franklin Collection Serv., Inc., 2011 WL 479997 (11th Cir. Feb. 11, 2011). The collector's intent may be inferred from the obvious consequences of the collector's numerous calls. Brandt v. I.C. Sys., Inc., 2010 WL 582051 (M.D. Fla. Feb. 19, 2010).
- 33. Including but not limited to within August and September 2012, the Defendant and its representatives, employees and/or agents above listed statements and actions, taken as a whole, involve unfair and/or unconscionable means to collect or attempt to collect a debt and therefore constitute violate FDCPA 1692f.
 - 34. "The Act [FDCPA] is a strict liability statute; violations of the Act do not need to be intentional to be actionable." Smith v. National Credit Systems, Inc., 807 F.Supp.2d 836, 840 (D.Az. 2011).
 - 35. "Because the FDCPA "is a "strict liability statute," Plaintiff need only demonstrate "one violation of its provisions" to be entitled to a favorable judgment." <u>Doshay v. Global Credit and Collection Corporation</u>, 796 F.Supp.2d 1301, 1304 (D.Colo. 2011).
 - 36. The FDCPA is a remedial statute, it should be construed liberally in favor of the consumer. <u>Johnson v. Riddle</u>, 305 F.3d 1107, 1117 (10th Cir. 2002).
 - 37. The FDCPA allows the consumer to orally dispute a debt. <u>Camacho v. Bridgeport</u>

 <u>Financial Inc.</u>, 430 F.3d 1078, 1081 (9th Cir. 2005) and <u>Brady v. The Credit</u>

 <u>Recovery Company, Inc.</u>, 160 F.3d 64, 67 (1st Cir.1998).

- 38. The FDCPA does not require the consumer to provide any reason at all in order to dispute a debt. Sambor v. Omnia Credit Servs., 183 F.Supp. 2d 1234, 1240 (D. Haw. 2002).
- 39. A consumer is entitled to dispute the validity of a debt for a good reason, a bad reason, or no reason at all. Mendez v. M.R.S. Assoc., 2004 WL 1745779, page 2 (N.D.III. August 3, 2004).
- 40. As a consequence of the Defendant's collection activities and communication(s), the Plaintiff seeks damages pursuant to FDCPA 1692k(a).

JURY TRIAL DEMAND

The Plaintiff is entitled to and hereby demands a trial by jury. US Const. amend. 7., Fed. R. Civ. Pro. 38.

DESIGNATION OF PLACE OF TRIAL

Plaintiff requests Kansas City, Missouri as the place of trial.

DEMAND FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff requests that the Court grant the following:

- 1. A judgment in favor of the Plaintiff and against the Defendant.
- 2. Damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a).
- 3. Reasonable attorney's fees and costs pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(3).

4. Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ J. Mark Meinhardt J. Mark Meinhardt #20245 9400 Reeds Road Ste 210 Overland Park, KS 66207 mark@meinhardtlaw.com 913-451-9797 Fax 913-451-6163

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF